## REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 11 is amended. Claims 2-10 are allowed. Claims 2-17 are pending in the application. Support for the amendments to claim 11 can be found at at least page 8, lines 24-30 of the present specification. Changes made to the claims by the current amendment are shown in the attached Version With Markings to Show Changes Made.

Claims 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Toyoshima, JP 5007101. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The "cover" required by claim 11 has a different structure and provides a different function than the conductive, insulative and resistive structures (8, 9, 10) disclosed by Toyoshima. Claim 11 requires covers that surround the input/output lines within an internal space of the metal box where electromagnetic waves of the waveguide mode are generated. Accordingly, the covers can prevent the waveguide mode (unwanted higher-order mode) from being excited by a high-frequency wave transmitted in the input/output line. The covers also can prevent the waveguide mode from being coupled to the input/output line within the internal space of the metal box. As a result, the covers required by claim 11 suppress the propagation of the waveguide mode (unwanted higher order mode).

Toyoshima, on the other hand, suppresses an unwanted higher order mode based on the attenuation resulting from a current loss caused in the structures 8, 9, 10. As a result, the input/output lines disclosed by Toyoshima are exposed to an internal space of the box 1 rather than being surrounded by covers within an internal space of a metal box, as required by claim 11. As a result of the configuration disclosed by Toyoshima, a high-frequency wave is emitted easily from the input/output lines into the internal space of the box 1, or easily received into the input/output lines from the internal space. Thus, the covers required by claim 11 are different from the structures 8, 9, 10 disclosed by Toyoshima and provide a greater suppression of an unwanted higher order mode than is possible with the configuration disclosed by Toyoshima.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that Toyoshima fails to disclose every limitation of claim 11 and the claims that depend from it. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toyoshima in view of Buck et al., U.S. 5,164,358. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed above, claim 11, from which claims 15-17 depend, is allowable over the Toyoshima reference. Buck fails to remedy the deficiencies of Toyoshima as it relates to claim 11. Therefore, claims 15-17 are allowable for at least the reason they are dependent upon an allowable base claim. Applicants do not concede the correctness of this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

### In the Claims

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (Thrice Amended) A high-frequency circuit element comprising:

a high-frequency circuit formed on said substrate,

a metal box with a lid electromagnetically shielding said high-frequency circuit by enclosing said substrate there within,

[an] input/output [terminal] terminals placed on said metal box and inputting/outputting a high-frequency signal to/from said high-frequency circuit, said input/output terminals being connected to respective input/output lines of said high-frequency circuit, and

[a cover] covers for interrupting an unwanted higher order mode, surrounding [an] the input/output [line] lines, respectively, [of said high-frequency circuit] within an internal space of said metal box so as to suppress the propagation of high-frequency waves.